A moſt Strange and Dreadful

APPARITION

OF SEVERAL

Spirits & Viſions,

At ſeveral times ſeen and ſpoken to, on the 14, 15, and 16th. of this Inſtant *July*, 1680. at the Houſe of Mr. *John Thomas*, Junior; next Door to the Sign of the *Crown*, at *Cow Croſs*, in the PARISH of St. Sepulchres, *London*.

Giving you a Juſt and True Account of their ſeveral Shapes they appeared in at ſeveral times, Viz *Rats*, *Puppets*, and *Boys*, with their ſtrange manner of Garbs, ſome having Hats, other Hoods, others bloody Knives in their Hands.

Alſo diſcovering the ſeveral *Queſtions* which were Asked them by Mr. *John Thomas*, Seignior, a perſon of above Fourſcore Years of Age. with a full account of their particular Anſwers, ready to be Atteſted by the aforeſaid *John Thomas*, Seignior, and Three Servants more belonging to Mr. *John Thomas*, Junior. With their manner of Behaviour, which by the Shapes that appeared like Boys, was in Dancing a pretty while, and then bowing, vaniſht away in Smoak, and other ſome in Flaſhes of Fire: Not forgetting the Conſternation and Amazement which poſſeſt the Carpenter, who was imployed in taking up of Boards in order to the ſearching for the Money which theſe Spirits ſaid were hid.

With many more Circumſtances, not here related, but will be certainly Juſtified for Truths, by the (credible) Spectators.

Printed for *J. Clarke*, in *Weſt-ſmith-field*, 1680.

Phil 7060.13.5 *
April 5, 1922
WARREN UNIVERSITY
CHILD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

A most Strange and Dreadful

APPARITION

OF SEVERAL

Spirits

Harvard College Library

At several times seen and spoken to, on the

Mr. John Thomas, Junior; next Door to the

Sr. Sepulchres, London.

Giving a full and True Account of their several Shapes

their appearing at several times, Their Postures and Port with

the manner of Habit, Some having Hats, other Hoods,

these bloody Knives in their Hands.

As discovering the several Questions which

them by Mr. John Thomas, Junior, a person of above

and Three servants more belonging to Mr. John Thomas, Junior,

with their manner of Behaviour, which by the Shapes that appear-

ed like Boys, seem'd Dancing a pretty while, and then leaving, vanish'

away in Smoak, ... Flame in stead of Fire: Not forgetting the

Confirmation and Attestation which poor Mr. Carpenter, who was

employed in taking up of Boards in order to the searching for the Mo-

ney which these Spirits had were hid.

With many more Circumstances, not here related, but

will be certainly Justified for Truths by the Credible Spectators.

Printed for W. Clark, in Wentworth-Street, 1696.

A most Strange and Dreadful

APPARITION

OF SEVERAL

Spirits and Visions.

I Have now considered, and conceive it not Impertinent to expose to publique view, the strange and dreadful Apparitions of Spirits, that presented themselves in several shapes and forms, to astonishment and Terror of those that lived in the house of Mr. John Thomas, *Book-Binder, at* Cow-Cross, *next door to the sign of the* Crown, *in the Parish of* St. Sepulchres, London, *who was Eye-witnesses and Spectators, of which I was the chief Observator; herein I shall answer the expectation of them that desire to be informed of the Truth thereof, I shall not amuse the World with feigned Stories and fictious Delusions, but to satisfie the Curious and Moderate Civiliz'd Persons, as for the Incredulous, they may rest dissatisfied; but for the Censurous and Calumnies of the Rude Multitude, whose mouths I cannot stop, spreading abroad Reports and fallitious Conceptions as their own fancies leads them to, for you know* Fama Crescit Eundo; *Again I shall use the words of St.* Paul, I speak in the presence of God, I Lye not, and what is it that makes the people so Dubious and Unbelieving, *because the like Apparition was never seen or known in the Memory of any Man Living.*

ABout Two Months ago, the beginning of *June* last, we was much troubled and moleſted with ſtrange Viſions in the ſhape of Ratts, which appeared to us dayly all the ſaid Month, and moſt part of *July*, to our great diſturbance, breaking down the Walls in Two Rooms three pair of Stairs high, where we did work, throwing about the Loam, Rubbiſh, and Duſt, that we could not quietly follow our Work and employments, and we endeavoured to deſtroy and kill them, but could never effect it, for we have hit and ſtruck them down, yet for all that they Vaniſh away, and was not hurt at all; they was ſo bold and daring, that they would ſtand before us and run up and down, pinching us by the Leggs, and could not be rid of them, for nothing would affright *them*, and they continued diſacing the Rooms all Day, and moſt part of the Night, that we could not lye quietly in our Beds, tumbling and throwing of every thing about that was in their way, to the great diſturbance of us at our employments, and ſpoyling all our Work: theſe Viſions of Rats continued Six or Seven weeks: at laſt they appeared to us like Chickens or Pidgeons, and after in a round circumference like to Foot-balls; and two days after, which

was the 14th. day of *July*, they appeared again in the likeness and shape of Boys and Girls, at which visions we was greatly affrighted and astonished: At first appearance of the spirits, which did much amaze us, and put us into a great consternation, it appeared to us in the shape of a *Puppit*, with a Coat on, and danced a little while, then bowing to us it vanisht: after this comes another Spirit with a Cap on his head, and in another shape, and danced a little while, and bowed to us, and then vanisht: They began to appear first about 9 in the Forenoon, and continued until 12 at Noon, and every Spirit that appeared was in a several shape, and there never came but one at a time: some came with Caps on their heads, some with Hats, some Hoods, and some with straw Hats, some with paper Hats, as we judged; some with white Dressings on their heads, every one had several shapes to our view, and they danc'd every one a while, and bowed to us, and then vanish'd: some of these Visions had red and bloody Faces, some with several things in their hands, one had a brush in his hand, another had a piece of Paper, and swept the place where they danced, another had a Knife in his Hand, another had a Book in his hand, open like to a stitch'd Almanack, another had a Letter on his head, another

with

with a Paper lighted and burning in his hand, and their came [illegible] with Candles with sparkles of Fire that flew all about the Room, then vanish, and when they vanished it was so smoak, for that I judged there appeared in Three hours near three score of these Spirits or Visions, and in the Afternoon they flung Loam and rubbish about the room until Ten a Clock at night, and then called. The next morning being the 9th day of July, there appeared again about 8 in the morning, in long Coats muffled about their Faces, and they did put me to pain to speak to them, and to the first that came, I said thus, *I charge and require you in the Name of God to tell me why you do frequent and haunt this place?* it did Vanish away, and did give [illegible] no answer that I could understand. Then next that came I spoke to him, for nothing but Blood would serve me, *Murder* as last, and vanish'd, the third that came to me, I spoke the words to him as I did before, and it answered me, *that there is Money*, then another came, and I spoke to it, and it answered, *Money, Money*, and then vanished, then another came, and I spoke to it, and asked it, *Where is this Money?* it answered me, *In the next Wall*; another came, and I spoke to it, *where is this Money?* it answered me, *In the next House in the Wall*, another came, and I spoke to it, *Tell me plainly*

where

what this Money is to be? It answered me, *In a Brick-Wall in the Chimney*, and then vanished; another came, and I spoke to it again, and it answered me as the rest did, *In the Wall in a Chimney*: Another came, and I spoke to it, and asked, *How much Money was hid?* it presently answered me, Five and Twenty pound. And divers others appeared, and about Noon they ceased and came no more; but in the Afternoon they threw the Loam and Rubbidge up and down the Rooms, that we was forced to abandon and leave the Rooms, and work in another place. They continued the flinging of the Loam about, until Midnight, and going to our Beds, resolved to set a Candle lighted all night by us, but they would endure no Candle light, but struck them out six or seven times, and broke the Candle in several pieces. This lasted about an hour, and then we was quiet that night. The next day the Spirits appeared no more, but the flinging of Loam and dust about, and most part of the day appeared flashes of Fire, as great bodies of smoak, and so continued till night; after this we stayed below stairs until 11 a Clock at night, then we did not go to Bed in the same rooms, but lay below in another Chamber, and we had not been in Bed a quarter of an hour, but there was thrown out of the upper rooms (where the

Spirits

Spirits Haunted) a Hammer of ten pound weight, down the Stairs, and two or three great stones came tumbling down the said stairs and beat the Chamber door open, and beat off the Lock, so we was forced to go out of our Beds and leave the Chamber: The noise was was so great, that we thought the house had fallen down, and the people below was sore affrighted, and ready to run out of the house: after Twelve a Clock at night we heard no more, and have been quiet ever since. We have not had any Appearance or disturbance at all, onely this I shall declare; The affrights and amazement the Carpenter had in taking up the Boards in the next house, and in our house, that he was forced to run away, & scarce had time to take his Tools with him.

Besides, Neighbours report that this house was Haunted with Spirits about a doten years ago, and the Spirits been laid for a time, which, it seems, is now expired, which caused them to appear again; but praised be Almighty God, we are all now at quiet, having never [illegible] and heard any thing that have molested us [illegible]

All the Loss and Robbidge they threw about, was invisible unto us.

Magna est Veritas & Prævalebit.

FINIS.